

friends, our family, and our heartland, do not trifle with this representative democracy. For we the people will not stop, we will never back down. We will give our everything to protect those dear to us. This is our country. This is our Republic. Finish the wall.

TO-DO LIST FOR THE PRESS CORPS

(Mr. GROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, we are now being sent home for 3 weeks, I don't know whether it is coincidence or not that we are being sent home when we have such a problem at our border, and we just got done voting on a few immigration bills.

All of us Congressmen should have a to-do list over the next 3 weeks. I want to give the press corps a to-do list. Right now, our Border Patrol is under a gag order in which they cannot educate the press or Congressmen as to what is really going on. This, at a time when you have almost three times as many people trying to get across the border than at this time last year, and we have huge numbers of unaccompanied minors down there.

The press should be outraged at this gag order. I have been at the border four times so far over the last couple years, and it is always very illuminating what the Border Patrol can say to us. Now, like we are in some totalitarian state, they are not allowed to speak to us.

I don't care whether you care about the government benefits, the unaccompanied minors, the drug trafficking, the human trafficking, the money the drug cartels are making on illegal immigration, we should want to know and we can't know unless the Border Patrol tells us. Please wake up, sleeping press corps.

DISASTER AT OUR BORDER

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, last year Portland, Oregon, cut \$16 million from their police budget. This has led to a twenty-fold increase, unfortunately, in deadly shootings. Mayor Wheeler has been forced to reverse course now and ask for more funding for police.

Similar to this, the Biden administration is having to reverse course due to the crisis on the border. Now, many are getting hung up on using the word "crisis," so FEMA is now involved, and they deal with disasters, hence, the Biden border disaster.

Less than 2 months in, the border is worse than it has been in two decades. And now, Biden has been forced to reverse course and ask Mexico to help control the flow of migrants once again, after previously dismantling the "Remain in Mexico" policy.

Also, on his first day in the Biden administration, they issued a proclamation to halt all border construction, despite Congress funding it and demanding that it be built. Now, just yesterday, the administration has said it was moving forward with border wall construction. Good.

As they are learning in Portland, Seattle, and Minneapolis, the Biden administration is learning law and order is also required on our border or you get a disaster.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ) laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Joint Economic Committee:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
March 19, 2021.

HON. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: I write to respectfully tender my resignation as a member of the Joint Economic Committee effective immediately. It has been an honor to serve in this capacity.

Sincerely,

DARIN LAHOOD,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO THE JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1024(a), and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, of the following Member on the part of the House to the Joint Economic Committee:

Mr. ARRINGTON of Texas, to rank after Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER of Washington.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE MODERNIZATION OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 4(e) of House Resolution 8, 117th Congress, and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, of the following Member to the Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress:

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, to rank after Mr. LATTA of Ohio.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO THE SELECT SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE CORONAVIRUS CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 4(f) of House Resolution 8, 117th Congress, and the order of the House of January 4,

2021, of the following Member to the Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis:

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS of Iowa.

SCORCHED EARTH TO MISSISSIPPI BURNING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from South Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, last March, as the tragic failure of the Trump administration's response to the coronavirus pandemic was becoming very apparent, the House Democratic Caucus held a conference call to discuss the crisis. Recalling the lessons of history, like the aftermath of World War I, the Spanish Flu, the Great Depression, and World War II, that it is usually the least of these among us that are the hardest hit during the crises and the last to recover after these crises are over, if they are able to recover at all; I expressed at that time to the Caucus that the legislation before us offered a tremendous opportunity to restructure things in our vision. I was referring then, as I often do, to the vision expressed in our Pledge of Allegiance to our Nation's flag of liberty and justice for all.

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Shortly after the media reported these comments, Senator MCCONNELL, the majority leader of the Senate, derided them on the Senate floor. Referring to me by position, he declared: "This is not a political opportunity. It is a national emergency."

I wholeheartedly agree with the now-minority leader of the Senate that the coronavirus pandemic was and remains a national emergency. But because the previous administration and Senate Republicans failed to address it with appropriate urgency and a vision of liberty and justice for all, the American people, through the political process last November, entrusted Democrats with an opportunity to build back with a better and more equitable vision for the future of our great country.

The American Rescue Plan has begun that process, and it is enjoying widespread, bipartisan support across the entire spectrum of the country. It did not get a single Republican vote in the House or the Senate. Because of the use of the budget process commonly called reconciliation, Republicans were not able to block by filibuster the American Rescue Plan, and that is proving to be a good thing.